



MILWAUKEE
COUNTY
PARK
SYSTEM

SCOTT WALKER
County Executive

SUE BLACK
Parks Director

Yours to discover!

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February 2, 2004

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Contact: Keith Kalberer (414) 257-4575
Parks Marketing Director

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MILWAUKEE COUNTY TO HOLD PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING ON GYPSY MOTH SUPPRESSION

Milwaukee – Milwaukee County Park System Director Sue Black announced that a public information meeting to discuss the spraying for gypsy moths in various County Parks is being held on February 3, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. at the Zoofari Center, 10001 W. Bluemound Road. Park officials will be on hand to explain the method that will be used in late spring to eradicate gypsy moth larvae.

This is the sixth year the Park System has taken steps to control gypsy moths. Last year aerial spraying was used due to the density of the trees where the infestation had taken place. The Park System plans to spray the infested trees with an agent designed to kill the young caterpillars while they feed on the leaves of the host tree. After the initial spraying, the Park System will closely monitor any progress the gypsy moth population has made and repeat spraying as needed. Park officials have already notified individual homeowners neighboring the sites that may be sprayed of the public meeting at the Zoofari Center.

Park officials encourage residents that live near heavily wooded areas to check their own trees for the signs of gypsy moths. If detected early, egg masses can be eradicated. However if left unchecked, the results can be devastating. For more information on this issue, residents are encouraged to call the Gypsy Moth Hotline at 1-800-642-MOTH or visit their website at <http://datcp.state.wi.us/gypsymoth/>

For more information on the Park System's control of Gypsy Moths, please contact Keith Kalberer at (414) 257-4575.

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